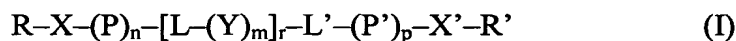


## I. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Water-soluble or water-dispersible~~ amphiphilic cationic associative polyurethanes of formula (I):



in which:

R and R', ~~which~~ are identical or different, and represent a hydrophobic group or a hydrogen atom;

X and X', ~~which~~ are identical or different, and represent a group comprising an amine functional group which may or may not carry a hydrophobic group or ~~the an~~ L» group;

L, L' and L», ~~which~~ are identical or different, and represent a group derived from diisocyanate;

P and P', ~~which~~ are identical or different, and represent a group comprising an amine functional group which may or may not carry a hydrophobic group;

Y represents a hydrophilic group;

r is an integer between 1 and 100, ~~preferably between 1 and 50 and in particular between 1 and 25,~~

n, m and p have values, each independently of the others, between 0 and 1000;

the molecule comprising at least one protonated or quaternized amine functional group and at least one hydrophobic group.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Polyurethanes~~ The polyurethane according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the only hydrophobic groups are the R and R' groups ~~at the chain ends.~~

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein R and R' ~~both~~ independently represent a hydrophobic group; ~~X and X' each represent an L» group~~ are L», n and p have values between 1 and 1000; and L, L', L», P, P', Y and m ~~have the meaning indicated in~~ are the same as Claim 1.

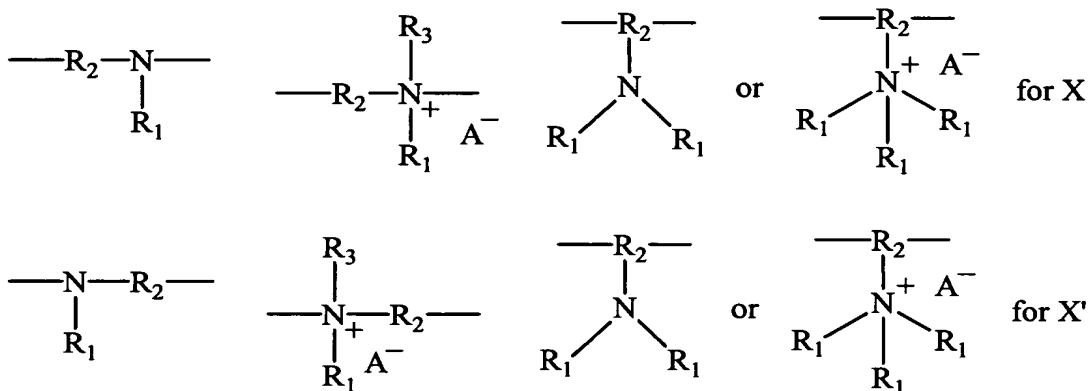
4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein R and R' ~~both~~ independently represent a hydrophobic group; ~~X and X' each represent an L» group~~ are L», n and p have the value 0; and L, L', L», Y and m ~~have the meaning indicated in~~ are the same as Claim 1.

5. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein R and R' both independently represent a hydrophobic group; ~~X and X' both independently represent a group comprising~~ comprise a quaternary amine; n and p have the value 0; and L, L', Y and m have ~~the meaning indicated in~~ are the same as Claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 1, which exhibits a number-average molecular mass between 400 and 500,000.

7. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein R and R' represent a radical or a polymer with a saturated or unsaturated and linear or branched hydrocarbonaceous chain, in which chain one or more of the carbon atoms is optionally replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of S, N, O and P, or a radical comprising a silicone or perfluorinated chain.

8. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein X and X' represent one of the formulae:



in which:

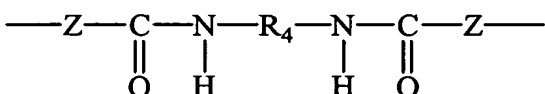
R<sub>2</sub> represents a linear or branched alkylene radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which optionally may comprise a saturated or unsaturated ring, or an arylene radical, wherein one or more carbon atoms optionally is replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O or P;

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub>, which are identical or different, are a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> alkyl or alkenyl radical or an aryl radical, wherein at least one of the carbon atoms optionally can be replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O and P;

B- A<sup>-</sup> is a physiologically acceptable counterion.

9. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein L, L', and L» ~~groups, which~~ are identical or different, and represent the formula:

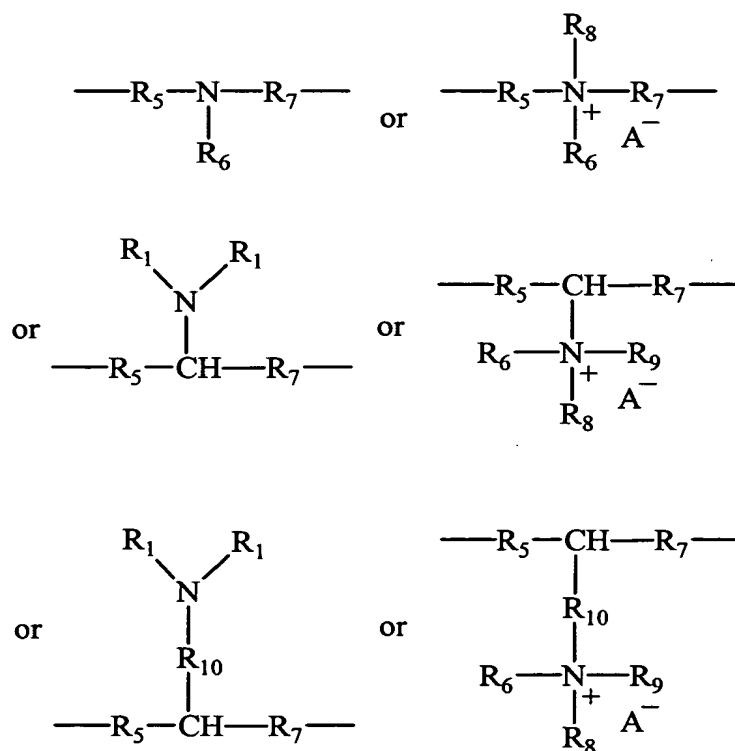
in which:



Z represents -O-, -S-, or -NH-; and

R<sub>4</sub> represents a linear or branched alkylene radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which optionally may comprise a saturated or unsaturated ring, or an arylene radical, wherein one or more of the carbon atoms optionally is replaced by a heteroatom chosen from N, S, O and P.

10. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 7 1, wherein ~~said~~ P and P' ~~groups, which~~ are identical or different, and are selected from the following formulae:



R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> ~~have the same meanings as R<sub>2</sub> defined in Claim 7~~ are identical or different and represents a linear or branched alkylene radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which optionally may comprise a saturated or unsaturated ring, or an arylene radical, wherein one or more carbon atoms optionally is replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O or P;

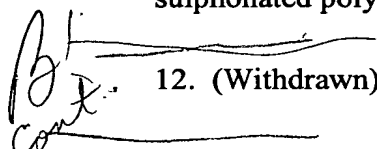
R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> ~~have the same meanings as R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> defined in Claim 7~~ are identical or

different, are a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> alkyl or alkenyl radical or an aryl radical, wherein at least one of the carbon atoms optionally can be replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O and P;

R<sub>10</sub> represents a linear or branched alkylene group which is optionally unsaturated and which optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O, S and P, and

A-  $\text{A}^-$  is a physiologically acceptable counterion.

11. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein Y represents a glycol selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol and propylene glycol or ~~a group derived from~~ a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethers, sulphonated polyesters and sulphonated polyamides.

 12. (Withdrawn)

13. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic composition ~~comprising, in a cosmetically acceptable medium, thickened or gellified with~~ at least one water-soluble polyurethane ~~as defined by~~ according to Claim 1.

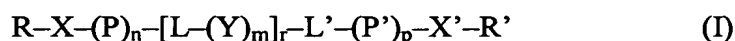
14. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 6, which has a number-average content mass ranging from 1,000 to 400,000.

15. (Currently Amended) A The polyurethane according to Claim 7, which has a number-average molecular weight ranging from 1,000 to 300,000.

16. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 1, wherein r is an integer between 1 and 50.

17. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 16, wherein r is an integer between 1 and 25.

18. (Currently Added) Water-dispersible amphiphilic cationic associative polyurethanes of formula (I):  
in which:



R and R', are identical or different, and represent a hydrophobic group or a hydrogen atom;

X and X', are identical or different, and represent a group comprising an amine functional group which may or may not carry a hydrophobic group or an L» group;

L, L' and L», are identical or different, and represent a group derived from diisocyanate;

P and P', are identical or different, and represent a group comprising an amine functional group which may or may not carry a hydrophobic group;

Y represents a hydrophilic group;

r is an integer between 1 and 100,

n, m and p have values, each independently of the others, between 0 and 1000;

the molecule comprising at least one protonated or quaternised amine functional group and at least one hydrophobic group.

19. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein the only hydrophobic groups are the R and R' groups.

20. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein R and R' independently represent a hydrophobic group; X and X' are L»; n and p have values between 1 and 1000; and L, L', L», P, P', Y and m are the same as Claim 18.

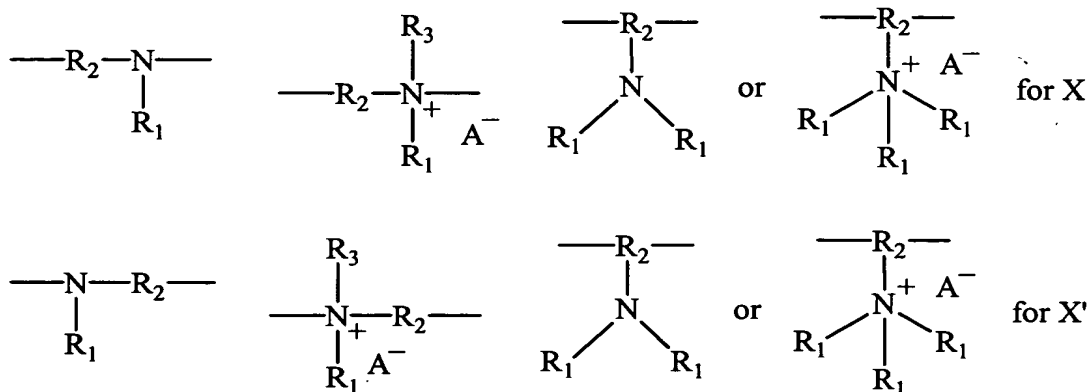
21. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein R and R' independently represent a hydrophobic group; X and X' are L», n and p have the value 0; and L, L', L», Y and m are the same as Claim 18.

22. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein R and R' independently represent a hydrophobic group; X and X' comprise a quaternary amine; n and p have the value 0; and L, L', Y and m are the same as Claim 18.

23. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, which exhibits a number-average molecular mass between 400 and 500,000.

24. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein R and R' represent a radical or a polymer with a saturated or unsaturated and linear or branched hydrocarbonaceous chain, in which chain one or more of the carbon atoms is optionally replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of S, N, O and P, or a radical comprising a silicone or perfluorinated chain.

25. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein X and X' represent one of the formulae:



in which:

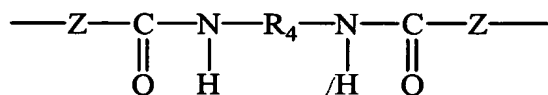
R<sub>2</sub> represents a linear or branched alkylene radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which optionally may comprise a saturated or unsaturated ring, or an arylene radical, wherein one or more carbon atoms optionally is replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O or P;

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub>, are identical or different, are a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> alkyl or alkenyl radical or an aryl radical, wherein at least one of the carbon atoms optionally can be replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O and P;

A<sup>-</sup> is a physiologically acceptable counterion.

26. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein L, L', and L'' are identical or different, and represent the formula:

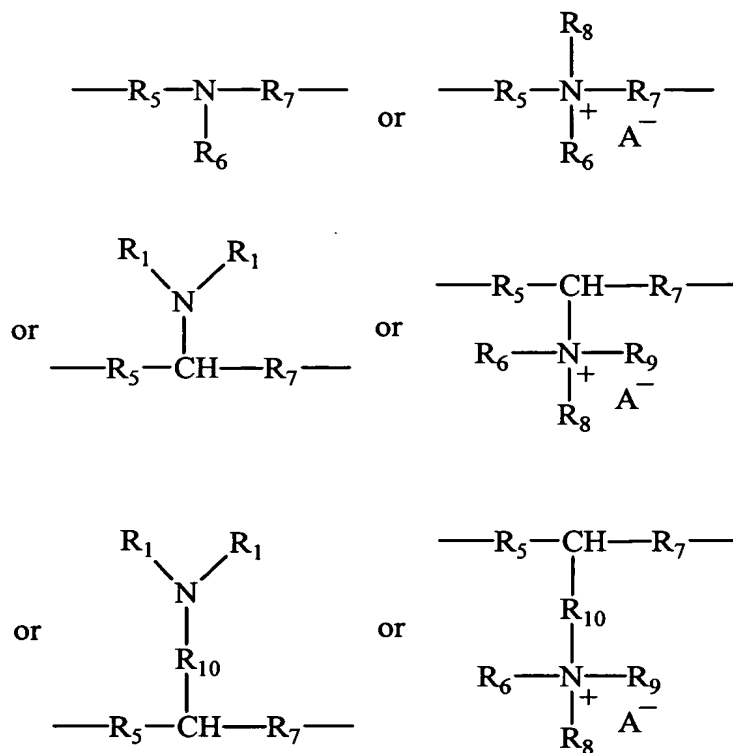
in which:



Z represents -O-, -S-, or -NH-; and

R<sub>4</sub> represents a linear or branched alkylene radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which optionally may comprise a saturated or unsaturated ring, or an arylene radical, wherein one or more of the carbon atoms optionally is replaced by a heteroatom chosen from N, S, O and P.

27. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein P and P' are identical or different, and are selected from the following formulae:



*B1 cont.*  
 R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are identical or different and represents a linear or branched alkylene radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which optionally may comprise a saturated or unsaturated ring, or an arylene radical, wherein one or more carbon atoms optionally is replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O or P;

R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are identical or different, are a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> alkyl or alkenyl radical or an aryl radical, wherein at least one of the carbon atoms optionally can be replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, S, O and P;

R<sub>10</sub> represents a linear or branched alkylene group which is optionally unsaturated and which optionally comprises one or more heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O, S and P, and

A<sup>-</sup> is a physiologically acceptable counterion.

28. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein Y represents a glycol selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol and propylene glycol or a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethers, sulphonated polyesters and sulphonated polyamides.

29. (Currently Added) Cosmetic compositions thickened or gellified with at least one water-

dispersible polyurethane according to Claim 18.

30. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 23, which has a number-average content mass ranging from 1,000 to 400,000.

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31. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 30, which has a number-average molecular weight ranging from 1,000 to 300,000.

32. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 18, wherein r is an integer between 1 and 50.

33. (Currently Added) The polyurethane according to Claim 32, wherein r is an integer between 1 and 25.

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